

What is Wrong in Public-Private Partnership in Water Resource Management? A Case Study of Kathmandu Valley Water Supply and Sanitation

Presented by:

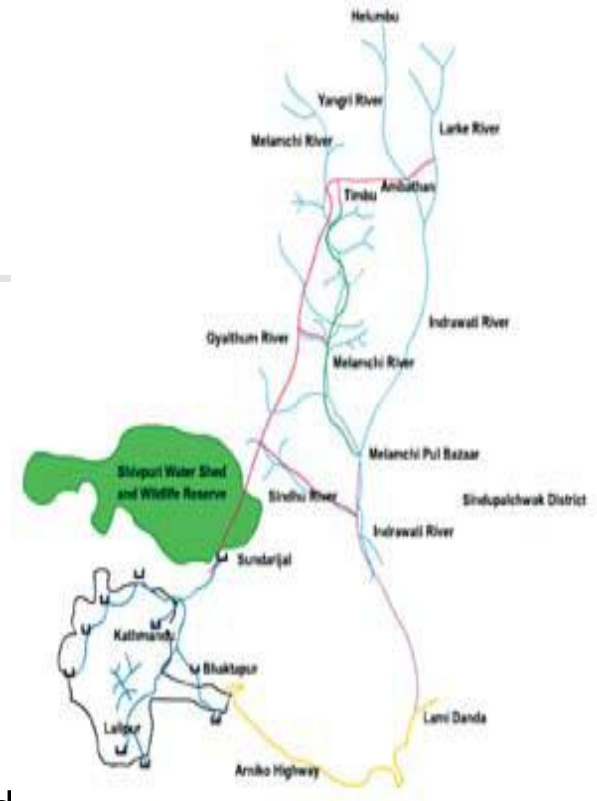
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Background



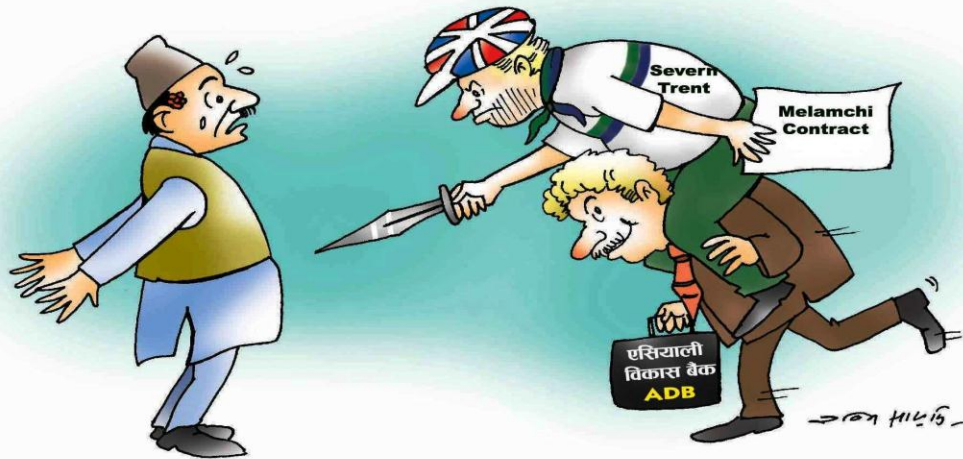
- Scarcity of water in Kathmandu valley.
- Melamchi Drinking Water Supply Project to Kathmandu Valley.
- 26.5 Kilometers tunnel construction from the small Melamchi River to Kathmandu Valley.
- 170 million litres of water per day from the Melamchi River to Kathmandu Valley.
- ADB, JICA are the major investor to the project



Donor's Conditionalities

- The ADB imposed a lending condition that there would be no loan for Melamchi water supply project from the Melamchi River unless the water service is fully privatised.
- As per the process, the government was first asked to transfer all assets, powers and operational authority from the already well-functioning Nepal Water Supply Corporation (NWSP) – a public utility.
- To prepare for this, Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Authority was established in 2000.
- The ADB, in 2003, then provided US \$15 millions in the name of the institutional reform and preparation of management contract. After that Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board (KVWSMB) was formed to takeover the NWSP assets and its power.
- Then was established Kathmandu Upatyaka Khanepani Limited (KUKL) to takeover the responsibility of the Valley's water supply management and operation.
- Various laws are enacted by the Parliament for the establishment of all the above institutions.

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Source: Himal Khabar Patika, 15-29 May, 2007

- To comply with this conditionality,
- the Nepali government made series of
- global tenders unsuccessfully and finally awarded the private management contract to the UK's Birmingham-based Severn Trent International (STWI), in 2006.
- However, due to the massive campaign by WAFED-Nepal with London-based World Development Movement (WDM), the STWI was compelled to withdraw from the contract.





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- Unfortunately, the alternative was not so different. The privatisation scheme went to a domestic private sector through the establishment of Nepali company, called, Kathmandu Upatyaka Khanepani Limited (Kathmandu Valley Drinking Water Limited (KUKL).
- It was a public-private partnership (PPP) arrangement in the sense that the ownership and asset of the public utility, Nepal Water Supply Corporation (NWSC), was transferred to the so called Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Management Board (KVWSMB), a public body composed of representatives various municipalities and so called consumers' associations.



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- KUKL is given the license for 30 years by the KVWSMB with the payment of NRs. 10 millions as per the annual fees.
- ADB is the main initiator and investor of this PPP in which it nominates the director until its loan is paid back.



Current Status

- KUKL has failed to perform properly and systematically as per the contract.
- It is suffered from the beginning (2008) in series of corruptions, delays and malpractices internationally and also with the water users.
- It has failed to invested in existing water sources around the Kathmandu Valley ranging from large number of streams, lakes, ponds and underground waters, including the rehabilitation of 350 plus stone tap waters and wells.
- There has been no plan for rainwater harvesting which is massive during the long monsoon season (June—September)

Current Status

खानेपानीको मुहानमै फोहोर



■ कल्पना विडिरे

काठमाडौँ- काठमाडौँ उपत्यका खानेपानी लिमिटेड (केयुपेल्) ले उपत्यकाबासीलाई वितरण गरिरहेको बोर्डेस्वित पानी प्रशोधन केन्द्रले लेदा पानी प्रशोधन गरी वितरण गरिरहेको छ । खानेपानीको अवस्थाबारे अध्ययन गर्ने गठित उच्चस्तरीय टोलीले विहीवार बोर्डेस्वित पानी प्रशोधन केन्द्र र पानीको मुहानको स्वयम्पत अनुगमन गरेको हो ।

अनुगमनका क्रममा बंगुरको टुल र फोहोरमैना भूमिपको मनोहरा खोलाको लेदा पानी सौँधे प्रशोधन गरिरहेको पाइयो । विहीवार मध्यहानमा बोर्डेस्वित पानीको मुहान पुर्या ५५ जना महिलाको हुल नुहाइअहाइ गरिरहेका थिए ।

तरकारी व्यापारीहरू बारीबाट मुला, साग टिपेर खोलाका पखालिरहेका भेटिए । गाईबस्तुको गोबर र बंगुरको फोहोरमैनाले मुहान भरिएको थियो ।

खोलाका नुहाएर घर फर्केरै गरेको स्थानीय बुद्धिबहादुर थापा मुहान वरपरका बासिन्दाले कपडा धुने, नुहाउने यबे खोलाभै गन्ने गरेको बताउँछन् । उनले भने, 'भरका मान्छेसमेत यही खोलाका जलाउने गरेका छन् ।'

दैनिक २० लाख लिटरभन्दा बढी उत्पादन र वितरण गरिने पानी देख्ने फोहोर देखिन्छ्यो । उपत्यकाबासीलाई वितरण गर्ने जम्मा गरिएको प्रशोधित पानीको



बोर्डेस्वित पानीको मुहान ।

तस्विकर : कल्पना

टुवाकी कीरा र गन्हाउने फिजले भरिएको पाइयो । यसरी वितरण गरिरहेको पानी पिउन नमिल्ने खाद्य प्रविधि तथा गुण नियन्त्रण विभागका साघा अधिकृत ईश्वर सुब्बेदौले जानकारी दिए ।

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठनको मापदण्डअनुसार पानीमा कोरिनको मात्रा नियन्त्रण गर्ने एक लिटर पानीमा तीन मिलिग्रामभन्दा नबढाई

ब्लिचिड पाउडर प्रयोग गर्नुपर्छ । उनले भने, 'यहाँ हजुरको भरमा पानीमा केमिकल हाल्ने गरिरहेका छन्, जुन स्वास्थ्यका लागि हानिकारक हुन्छ ।' यस्तो पानीले नुहाउन, सुत्न धुनसमेत नमिल्ने उनी बताउँछन् । उनका अनुसार यसले छात्राभा एलबी हुने, स्क्वायर रोग लाग्न सक्ने समस्या देखिन सक्छ । खोलाको हुल भूमिपको लेदा

पानी जति नै प्रशोधन गरे पनि पिउन नमिल्ने उनी बताउँछन् । उपभोक्ता मान्छाका अग्रज शम्भु ऋङेरियाले मुहानले हुल भन्, भुभु भूमिपको पानी सौँधे प्रशोधन गरेर वितरण गर्ने उपभोक्तामाथि गरिएको ठाडो अपराध भएको बताए । 'यस्तो पानी विक्री गरेर उपभोक्ताबाट पैसा असुन्नु कलाबजारी हो,' उनले तत्काल

मुधार गर्ने चेतावनी दिँदै भने, 'मुहान व्यवस्थापन र समग्र प्रशोधन प्रणालीमै मुधार नगरेर आवासीय निम्ना उपभोक्ताले खानेपानी कार्यालय घेराउ गर्नेछन् ।'

उनका अनुसार खानेपानीको मुहान सरसफाई गर्ने जिम्मेवार निकायले मुहानमै फोहोर मैना देखेर पनि व्यवस्थापनमा चासो नदेखाउनु नैरजिम्मेवार भएको बताए ।

टोलीले विहीवारै केयुपेल्को टिमि शाखाअन्तर्गत लोकम्पनी प्रशोधन केन्द्रमा समेत अनुगमन गरेको हो । खुला ठाउँमा जम्मा गरिएको पानीमा जवाभावी केमिकल प्रयोग गरिएको पाइयो । त्यहाँ उत्पादित पानीमा कायांलय महयोगी रामप्रसाद बुढानाले आफै अड्कल गरेर ब्लिचिड पाउडर प्रयोग गर्ने बताए । 'अरुलाई वितरण गरे पनि म यो पानी पिउन नसकिन्छ,' उनले भने ।

खुला टुवाकीमा जम्मा भएको पानीमा केही समय अघि मान्छे डुबेर मरेको थियो । त्यसपछि ढक्कन लगाउन धेरै पहल गरे पनि कतैबाट मुनुबाइ नभएको उनले बताए ।

तर, केयुपेल्ले त्यही पानी वितरण गरेर सर्वसाधारणबाट शुल्क असुलिरहेको छ । टिमिका कायांलय प्रमुख रमेश केसी वितरण गरिएको पानी पिउन योग्य नभएकोबारे सर्वसाधारणलाई जानकारी गराइसकेको दावी गर्छन् । उनले भने, 'हामीले कायांलयमै मुचुना टाँस गरेर पानी पिउन मिल्ने भनेका छौ ।'

- There has been no proper cleaning and maintenance of existing water sources and supplies.
- There has been series of scandals after their monitoring by the government agencies and the media recently about the untreated and dirty water supplied in various parts of the Capital.



Campaigns and Actions

- WAFED is continuously campaigning for the return of water supply and sanitation responsibility to the Nepal Water Supply Corporation (NWSC) with the same amount of rights, responsibilities and resources as given to KUKL.
- Employers and unions at NWSC and other related agencies are demanding for the same.
- The employers and customers of two other municipalities have filed two legal cases before the Supreme Court calling for their cancellation for being against the Interim Constitution which recognises health and environment as a fundamental right.



- Therefore, WAFED's call for the government and the ADB is to revert the scheme of water privatisation in any part of Nepal. It has already been proved as a gross failure.
- The ADB has not been able to show that there are cases of successes in other countries, and the Metro Manila privatisation disaster in its own backyard is one clear example.
- Cancellation of privatisation scheme and revival of the NWSC.
- ADB to withdraw its failed lending conditionality.
- Invest in Kathmandu Valley water supply resources first before funding the Melamchi project by drying out the other Valley.



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- ADB and Nepal's other so called donors and lenders at present and in the future must take into consideration that the country is going through a process of new constitution writing.
- The recognition of water supply and sanitation as a fundamental human right has already become an accepted concept there at the Constituent Assembly.
- Therefore, no any external forces of commercial and global interests should impose upon Nepal the scheme of externally managed, funded and guided water supply systems for this country of very traditional and agro-based small societies in transition.
- Donor should extend their support in grants and loans in areas which Nepalese themselves can manage properly and easily without any burden of foreign debt burden.



THANK YOU